

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 16-22 and 27 are pending and under consideration.

Independent claim 1 recites said first computer comprises resource information managing means for managing information relating to hardware or software, including a place of installation in the real world for each of the hardware or software. Jalalian does not teach the claimed position in the real world. Instead, the reference teaches a network universe 150 including a number of zones 141, 142, as set by the network manager 110. Jalalian, col. 7, ln. 15-27. However, there is no teaching that the zones correspond to positions in the real world. Instead, these zones generally exist in the virtual world of the network universe. Furthermore, Jalalian discusses the example of a person working in the accounting department being connected to the "accounting zone." Jalalian, col. 4, ln. 18-25. When connecting, this person would receive a list of laser printing devices available within the accounting "zone." However, there is no teaching that the zone corresponds to any position in the real world. Instead, the zone clearly relates to the services provided by the networked devices located within the user's assigned portion of the network. Jalalian, col. 3, ln. 52-57.

Furthermore, it is noted that the aliases for the shared resource 131, 132 are assigned to the resources in the zone, as well as the zone itself. These resources are also do not relate to positions in the real world.

The remaining independent claims are similarly patentable over Jalalian. Blair does not overcome these deficiencies.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Serial No. 09/017,329

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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